

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 530

By Haynes

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend James Edward Shmerling for meritorious service to the citizens of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is James Edward Shmerling, who has ably served as the Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer at Monroe Carell, Jr., Children's Hospital in Nashville since 2002; and

WHEREAS, during his illustrious tenure at Monroe Carell, James Shmerling oversaw the completion of 216-bed construction of a new hospital and office tower, coordinated and directed the opening of the hospital and relocation of patients into new hospital, and developed staffing and operations plan resulting in positive operating margins; in addition, he implemented Vanderbilt Children's "Books from Birth" program in concert with the Governor's initiative to put books in the hands of every child in Tennessee from zero to five years of age and facilitated the establishment of the Children's Hospital Alliance of Tennessee consisting of the four Comprehensive Regional Pediatric Centers in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, prior to his employment at Monroe Carell, Mr. Shmerling served as Senior Vice President of Ambulatory Services at Methodist/Le Bonheur Healthcare in Memphis, where he oversaw the development and management of two adult-based surgicenters and one pediatric surgicenter; and

WHEREAS, he also served as the President of Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center (LBCMC), where, among many other accomplishments, he ably led the strategic planning process for LBCMC and its subsidiaries resulting in the expansion of its satellite ambulatory

care sites of service, the creation of a Physician Hospital Organization (PHO), and hospital-wide initiatives to reduce costs and seek options for adult health care system alliance; and

WHEREAS, James Shmerling received a bachelor's degree in Public Health Education from the University of Tennessee, a master's degree in Hospital and Health Care Administration from the University of Alabama, a Master of Business Administration from Samford University, and a Doctorate in Health Administration from Medical University of South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to accolades, Mr. Shmerling is the recipient of numerous awards and recognitions, including the Volunteer Recognition Award from Junior Achievement of Memphis and the MidSouth, Inc. and the Arie Becker Young Leadership Award; he was also twice selected as an Outstanding Young Man of America; and

WHEREAS, James Shmerling has also lent his professional talents as the Clinical Associate Professor of Nursing at the Vanderbilt School of Nursing since 2005; and

WHEREAS, he donates his time and talents to such notable causes as the West End Synagogue, the Children's Miracle Network, the Boys and Girls Club of Middle Tennessee, Xebec, the First Tennessee Advisory Board, and the Ronald McDonald House; he is also a member of CHCA Performance Management Improvement Council, Vice President of First Steps Inclusive Day Care, a fellow with the American College of Health Care Executives, and an adjunct Assistant Professor at both the University of Alabama and the Washington University School of Medicine; and

WHEREAS, James Shmerling epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud James Edward Shmerling for his dedication to the state of Tennessee and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend James Edward Shmerling for his meritorious service to the state of Tennessee and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.